

JAPAN READ SCHIFF'S SPEECH

AND HE WROTE A LETTER SAYING HE WAS MISUNDERSTOOD.

Did Not Predict an Armed Conflict, but Viewed With Alarm the Compact With England and Russia About Manchuria—Japanese Comment on It.

Joseph H. Schiff, whose speech on the future relations between Japan and America which was delivered before the Republican Club early in March created unfavorable comment in the press of Japan, has written a letter in explanation of his remarks to the Japanese Ambassador in Tokyo, the leading foreign paper in Tokyo, through the *Advertiser*, which is widely read by educated Japanese, and is translated into the vernacular papers. Mr. Schiff's letter was calculated to reach the eye of the empire at large.

"Much to my regret, mistaken versions of what I actually said have been published," says Mr. Schiff in his letter published May 10, "and perhaps your courtesy gives me the proper opportunity to say to the people of Japan that I have never given it as my opinion, as has been variously reported, that an armed conflict between them and our country was a likelihood or a possibility. What in the main I did say was that the American people viewed with alarm the fact that a compact had been made between Japan, Russia and England in Manchuria which in the course of time was certain to lead to nothing but irritation, if not to an intense struggle, in which I counseled the United States should take part, not by might and not by power, but in the spirit of righteousness only."

"It can certainly not give any satisfaction to the American people when they find Japan, to whom they had lent their unreserved support in its desperate struggle for self-preservation, hardly more than half a decade ago, join hands under the protection of England and with their erstwhile foe who sought to crush them, and thus combine against the forces of civilization, who wish to see established a strong, self-reliant China rather than an impotent vassal state, a second India, America will be the last to deny Japan's dearly bought right to work out its manifest destiny on the Asiatic continent, but Japan must not seek to do this by acting in unison with Russia, whose interests of government are not such that its blessings ought to be permitted to extend beyond its own borders."

"Nor can it be right that the policy of development of a country of four hundred million people should be dictated through a compact between England, Japan and Russia for their own purposes. I have not shared one iota of my respect and friendship for the people of Japan, and just because of this fact I have deemed it well to sound a note of alarm when I find those people entering upon paths which can only lead to complications and estrangement from those who have proved their most disinterested friends."

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, reproducing in translation Mr. Schiff's letter to the *Advertiser*, appended an interview with a "certain high government official," who has this to say in comment upon Mr. Schiff's utterances:

"Now that he has sent an explanation of his own speech the Japanese must accept it as it is. He was the benefactor of Japan during the Russo-Japanese war, the Japanese entrusted him with the great task of raising foreign loans, putting full confidence in his financial talent and his good will toward Japan. After the lapse of only six years we should not disregard the benefactor or consider him as an enemy."

"With regard to the motive which prompted him to make such a speech nothing is known to the Japanese, but it seems that the State Department at Washington, upon the receipt of Mr. Schiff's letter, had entered into an understanding that their mutual interests in Manchuria should be protected to the exclusion of other powers. As the diplomatic authorities entertained such a belief it was quite natural that Mr. Schiff should have delivered the speech which called forth the comments of the world. Now that he understands the real intentions of Japan he will regret that he made such a sensational speech. Americans are good customers for Japanese goods and should their feelings for Japan become cooled Japan would receive a severe blow. It is a wise policy to bury the unfortunate event in oblivion."

FISCHER-HANSEN WOULD QUIT.

But These He Said Object Unless He Signs a General Release.

Carl Fischer-Hansen, the lawyer who was sent to Blackwell's Island for a year for obstruction of justice, brought suit against his former counsel, George Gordon Patton, his wife, Fannie, and the *Advertiser*, and his lawyer, Arthur A. McCook, to recover \$125,000 from an alleged agreement by which he was to get an annuity for his support, and now wants to discontinue the action.

H. W. Merchant, counsel for Fischer-Hansen, asked Supreme Court Justice Erlanger yesterday to mark the case discontinued, but Mr. Beard opposed the motion, saying that all the defendants were anxious to have the case tried and disposed of on its merits, so that Fischer-Hansen would be unable to annoy them further.

Just before Fischer-Hansen was brought to trial on the charge on which he was convicted his wife signed an agreement to support him if he signed articles of separation. Mr. Patton, his counsel, and Mr. Beard, counsel for Mrs. Fischer-Hansen, were trustees of this agreement. When it was apparent that the lawyer would be convicted he signed a supplemental agreement by which he promised to leave this country when he had served his term, and stay away.

By the terms of the agreement, said Mr. Beard yesterday in court, "we paid all of his debts and made one payment of \$125,000 toward his annuity. Another payment fell due on January 1 last, but as Fischer-Hansen had failed to keep his agreement not to remain in this country we refused to pay him any more money. Then he began the suit for \$125,000 damages. If he is willing to sign a general release we will consent to the discontinuance of this suit. Your Honor has the right to impose such terms."

The Court reserved decision after giving counsel time to submit briefs.

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CHUCKER & WICKES, Plaintiff Attorneys, Office of Plaintiff, 3 Nassau Street, New York City.

To the above named defendant Charles Longman, the following summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an order of Hon. Edward F. McCull, Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, dated the 14th day of May, 1910, and filed with the clerk in the office of the Clerk of the County of New York at the City of New York.

That you are hereby summoned to appear in the Court of the County of New York at the City of New York, on the 14th day of May, 1910, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, to answer the complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer to the complaint on the undersigned.

That you are hereby summoned to appear in the Court of the County of New York at the City of New York, on the 14th day of May, 1910, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, to answer the complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer to the complaint on the undersigned.

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